

RESCUE THE CHILDREN

NEW DIRECTIONS – PREPARING FOR CHANGE!

July, 2010

[CLICK HERE to view the June 30, 2010 news story on ABC Channel 30.](#)

For the past three years, anticipating the closure of the Craycroft Youth Center, the Fresno Rescue Mission has been planning alternate methods for continuing to assist at-risk children. We realize that keeping children with their families is important, and our goal is to create new programs that will allow us to help the mother and the children, before the County finds it necessary to remove the children and place them in foster care. Our past focus has been the child. Our new focus will be the mothers and the child, taking a more holistic approach to healing the family. Why do we think this is important?

- Large sibling groups are often separated because a family member or foster care family are unable to take all the children in one location. Craycroft allowed the children to stay together, and our goal is to offer an alternative that continues to allow this bond between the children.
- If the children are allowed to stay with their mother in a location that is safe, structured, controlled, drug-free and violence-free, the children have an opportunity to better assimilate and are less likely to end up in juvenile hall, or in jail or prison once they turn 18.
- A protected, secure environment providing long-term services such as case management, life skills classes, job training, counseling, and Bible studies offers women who are in an abusive situation the opportunity to get away from a destructive lifestyle, giving them and their children a place to heal, learn, grow and ultimately become productive members of society. Mothers who feel trapped in a dysfunctional setting can find a place of respite, and this type of opportunity can create life change not just for the present, but for future generations... one more family who doesn't have to rely on welfare... one more family that learns how to live violence-free.



WE BELIEVE... THE TIME IS NOW!

The Fresno Rescue Mission is moving ahead with its plans to create a new campus that will provide long-term assistance for mothers with children. In fact, our goal is to not only help children who may have otherwise ended up in foster care, but it gives us new opportunities to expand our current programs:

- The County will be able to refer mothers with children to us before it becomes necessary for the children to be taken away because of an abusive situation (oftentimes it is a boyfriend that is the abuser, and the woman needs a safe way out).
- Some of the families who use our 30-day Emergency Family Shelter need more than a short stay affords. Women with children will be able to participate in our new programs, giving them a much better opportunity to gain the skills they need to succeed.
- Men who are part of our 18-month Academy recovery program live at the Mission full-time for one year and their goal is to gain the skills they need in order to move forward once they graduate. They do not have a job, and their families are left to fend for themselves while the men get their lives together. The new campus will

give some of these women and children the support, training and respite they need to not only survive, but to thrive. The women and children receive much of the same training as the men, so once the men are able to reunite with their families, the family has a much better chance of moving forward together.

- Women who get out of prison and ultimately graduate from our Samaritan Women Program oftentimes have children that are either with a relative or in foster care. Sometimes they are unable to get their children back because there is no safe place for them to reunite. This new campus will give our Samaritan Women a structured, controlled location to reunite with their children.
- As an added benefit, the Fresno Rescue Mission will be in a position to expand services to men in our recovery programs and homeless men who use our overnight shelter, once women and children are moved to a separate, secure location.

WE BELIEVE... THE LOCATION IS IN ESCROW!

The Vagabond Inn on Parkway Drive, off Highway 99 between Clinton and McKinley in Fresno, is the ideal location for the new campus, which will include Rescue the Children, Samaritan Women and the Emergency Family Shelter. The property is currently in escrow and we have applied for a Conditional Use Permit (CUP). We're very close to seeing this come to fruition! A tentative plan for the campus can be found at the end of this announcement.



WE BELIEVE... BUT WE NEED YOUR HELP!

You, our faithful community, have been behind the success of the Fresno Rescue Mission for more than 60 years, giving resources that allow us to offer quality Christ-centered programs. It will take all of us to create a new campus to assist these at-risk women and children. We ask that you pray for the Mission leadership as we move forward, and that you ask yourself:

“What is it that God wants to do through me to assist women and children at the Fresno Rescue Mission?”

Prayerfully consider His response, then act! We would love to have your support.

If you are already giving to the Fresno Rescue Mission, please continue to give to sustain our current programs, and if God is calling you, consider giving over and above your regular giving to the new campus.

We are currently in the process of raising \$16 million: \$2 million to purchase the Vagabond, \$2 million to renovate the property, \$2 million for the first two years of operating expenses, and \$10 million to build an endowment to ensure the sustainability and future of the campus. How can you give?

- 1) Make your check payable to the Fresno Rescue Mission and write “capital campaign” in the memo field. Mail your check to Fresno Rescue Mission, P.O. Box 1422, Fresno, CA 93716-1422.
- 2) Donate on-line and indicate capital campaign on the donation. [Click here to DONATE NOW!](#)
- 3) Make a four-year pledge and give over time. [Click here for the PLEDGE FORM](#). Print it out, complete and sign it, and mail it to the Fresno Rescue Mission at the address above.

For questions, please call Janet Steinhauer, Capital Campaign Coordinator, at (559) 268-0839, Ext. 204 or e-mail jsteinhauer@fresnorescuemission.org.

Thank you for believing with us! We will keep you posted as we move forward with this God-Sized Dream!

“Everything is possible for him who believes.” Mark 9:23



RESCUE THE CHILDREN TEMPORARY SUPPORTIVE HOUSING FACILITY

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